

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. - 77. (Cancelled)

78. (Currently Amended) A laser light source, comprising:

a distributed feedback type semiconductor laser for emitting laser light;

a semiconductor laser amplifier for amplifying the laser light; and

an optical wavelength conversion element for receiving the amplified laser light so as to generate a harmonic wave, the optical wavelength conversion element having periodic domain inverted structures,

wherein the optical wavelength conversion element is formed of ~~formed with a stable proton exchange layer whose refractive index is constant at an ordinary temperature more than one day immediately after the optical wavelength conversion element is formed~~~~does not vary with time during operation~~, the stable proton exchange layer is configured to prevent the stable proton exchange layer from spontaneously undergoing a temporal variation in the refractive index without application of an electric field when a pseudo phase matching condition of the stable proton exchange layer is satisfied,

wherein strain induced in the stable proton exchange layer during the forming of the optical wavelength conversion element is mitigated by a low temperature annealing process after forming the optical wavelength conversion element.

79. (Previously Presented) A laser light source according to claim 78, wherein the optical wavelength conversion element has a modulation function.

80. (Previously Presented) A laser light source according to claim 78, wherein the optical wavelength conversion element is formed in an $\text{LiNb}_x\text{Ta}_{1-x}\text{O}_3$ ($0 \leq X \leq 1$) substrate.

81. (Cancelled)

82. (Previously Presented) A laser light source according to claim 78, wherein an optical waveguide is formed on the optical wavelength conversion element, and

wherein a width and a thickness of the optical waveguide are each 40 μm or greater.

83. (Previously Presented) A laser light source according to claim 82, wherein the optical wavelength conversion element has a modulation function.

84. (Previously Presented) A laser light source according to claim 82, wherein the optical wavelength conversion element is formed in an $\text{LiNb}_x\text{Ta}_{1-x}\text{O}_3$ ($0 \leq X \leq 1$) substrate.

85. (Previously Presented) A laser light source according to claim 82, wherein the optical waveguide is of a graded type.

86. - 87. (Cancelled)

88. (New) A laser light source according to claim 78, where the refractive index of the stable proton exchange layer is constant at an ordinary temperature more than ten days after the optical wavelength conversion element is formed.

89. (New) A laser light source according to claim 78, wherein the ordinary temperature is in a range between 0 degrees Celsius and 50 degrees Celsius.

90. (New) A laser light source according to claim 78, wherein said optical wavelength conversion element has a temporal variation of 0.5nm or less, less than ten days after the optical wavelength conversion element is formed.

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91. (New) A laser light source according to claim 90, wherein said proton exchange layer is substantially free of strain less than ten days after the optical wavelength conversion element is formed.